

There are some aspects of the chlamydospore development in the locules that are not clear: it is to be expected that some partially pigmented spores would be present but none has been observed either attached to the parental hyphae or free; in spite of this there is little doubt that the spores develop in the manner suggested. Also scattered through the locules and apparently always attached to the hyphae are large, subglobose to irregular, thick walled cells to 25µm diam. (lower sketch, Fig. 1C). These cells can be almost twice the diameter of the largest chlamydospores and apparently never develop pigmentation. No suggestion can be made as to their function except that they may be nutrient storage receptacles.

Distribution of collection: Kew [K]; University of Melbourne [MELU]; University of Western Australia [UWA].

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GLOSSARY

- apedicellate: a spore without a projecting point of attachment to the spore producing cell.
 basidiomycete: a fungus producing spores on basidia.
 basidium: a sexual cell on which spores, usually four, are produced externally on extensions of the cell wall.
 chlamydospore: an asexual spore originating by modification of an hyphal segment.
 clamp: a by-pass connection between two cells, see Fig. 1A.
 Gasteromycete: a fungus in which the spores develop inside an initially totally enclosed peridium.
 gleba: the spore-bearing and other internal tissues of the fungus.
 hyaline: colourless.
 hyphae: the vegetative filaments of a fungus.
 hypogaeal: developing under the ground.
 peridium: the outer wall of the fungus which may be of several layers.
 rhizomorph: a root-like aggregation of strands of hyphae attached to the outside of the fungus.
 um: micrometre = one thousandth of a millimetre.

REFERENCE

- BEATON G. & WESTE G. 1982. A new species of *Scleroderma* from Victoria, Australia. *Transactions of the British Mycological Society* 79 (1) 41-43.

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

Taking of fish by a Whistling Kite in the Pilbara, W.A. — On July 23, 1983, we observed a Whistling Kite, *Haliastur sphenurus*, catching and eating a live Bony Herring, *Nematalosa erebi*, at a shallow pool on the Oakover River near the Marble Bar - Telfer Road crossing. This species is usually regarded as a scavenger and will eat any kind of carrion. A recent dietary study (Debus, 1983 : Corella 7(3) 62-63) does not refer to live fish being taken by the Whistling Kite.

The kite was initially seen gliding about 8m above the pool. Several attempts at catching a fish were then made by swooping down low over the water with legs extended. Following a successful strike, a live Bony Herring approximately 7.5cm long was plucked from the water and the kite perched in a Cadjeput (*Melaleuca leucadendra*) tree to feed. After consuming the head and internal organs the kite dropped the fish, which was retrieved by us and photographed for identification. Another successful strike was observed in the next five minutes. The presence beneath the perching site of a number of regurgitated pellets containing fish remains, suggested that fish was a common food item for the bird.

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